

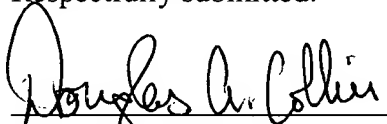
REMARKS

The present application with claims 1-39 pending was subject to an Election/Restriction Requirement dated 14 May 2002. The Election/Restriction Requirement asserts that the application contains claims directed to the following two groups of inventions:

- I. Claims 1-28 and 34-39 drawn to Spinal Implants, classified in class 623, subclass 17.11.
- II. Claims 29-33 drawn to a Method of Using classified in class 128, subclass 898.

The invention of Group I, claims 1-28 and 34-39 is hereby elected without traverse. Consideration of the present application in view of the foregoing remarks is respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by telephone to resolve any outstanding matters concerning the present application.

Respectfully submitted:



Douglas A. Collier

Reg. No. 43,556

Woodard, Emhardt, Naughton

Moriarty & McNett

Bank One Center Tower

111 Monument Circle, Suite 3700

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-5137

(317) 634-3456